

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request further examination and reconsideration in view of the above Claims. Claims 1-8 remain pending in the case. Claims 1-8 are rejected. No new matter has been added.

REJECTIONS

35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1, 3, 5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent Number 4,473,855 to Plotto et al., hereinafter referred to as "Plotto", in view of United States Patent Number 6,396,667 to Zhang et al., hereinafter referred to as "Zhang". Applicants have reviewed the cited references and respectfully submit that the embodiments of the present invention as recited in Claims 1-8 are not rendered unpatentable over Plotto in view of Zhang for the following rational.

Claims 1 and 3

Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner to independent Claim 1 that recites, in part, that an embodiment of the present invention contains (emphasis added):

an attachment portion adapted for attachment to a suspension of a disk drive.

Claim 3 that depends from independent Claim 1 provides further recitation of a feature of the present invention.

Plotto and the claimed invention contain an important difference. Applicants understand Plotto to purport to teach a system which includes magnet transducer platforms with protecting fairings. However, Applicants understand Plotto to teach a system in which the protective fairing device surrounds the suspension device and does not attach to it as claimed. Particularly, Applicants respectfully assert that Plotto fails to teach or suggest "an attachment portion adapted for attachment to a suspension of a disk drive," (emphasis added) as claimed.

Moreover, the combination of Plotto and Zhang fails to teach or suggest this claim limitation because Zhang does not remedy the deficiencies of McClure. Applicants

understand Zhang to purport to teach an electromagnetic disc drive microactuator and suspension in which a protective fairing is neither taught nor suggested. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that Zhang fails to teach or suggest “an attachment portion adapted for attachment to a suspension of a disk drive,” (emphasis added) as claimed.

Applicants respectfully assert that nowhere do the teachings of Plotto and Zhang alone or in combination, teach or suggest, “an attachment portion adapted for attachment to a suspension of a disk drive,” (emphasis added) as recited in independent Claim 1 and that this claim overcomes the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), and is thus in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Plotto and Zhang also does not teach or suggest the additional claimed features of the embodiments of the present invention as recited in Claim 3 that depends from independent Claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1 and 3 overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), and that these claims are in a condition for allowance.

Claims 5 and 7

Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner to independent Claim 5 that recites, in part, that an embodiment of the present invention contains (emphasis added):

the frame portion surrounding the slider and a moving-slider-type microactuator coupled to the slider and an attachment portion adapted for attachment to a suspension of the disk drive

Claim 7 that depends from independent Claims 5 provides further recitation of a feature of the present invention.

For the same rational presented above for independent Claim 1, Applicants respectfully assert that nowhere do the teaching of Plotto and Zhang alone or in combination, teach or suggest the present invention, particularly “the frame portion surrounding the slider and a moving-slider-type microactuator coupled to the slider and an attachment portion adapted for attachment to a suspension of the disk drive,”

(emphasis added) as recited in independent Claim 5. As such, independent Claim 5 overcomes the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), and is thus in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Plotto and Zhang also does not teach or suggest the additional claimed features of the embodiments of the present invention as recited in Claim 7 that depends from independent Claim 5. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 7 overcomes the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), and is thus in a condition for allowance.

Claims 2 and 6

Claims 2 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Plotto and Zhang as applied to 1, 3, 5 and 7 above, and further in view of United States Patent Number 6,549,365 to Severson, herein referred to as “Severson”. Claim 2 depends from independent Claim 1, and Claim 6 depends from independent Claim 5. Applicants have reviewed the cited references and respectfully submit that the embodiments of the present invention as recited in Claims 2 and 6 are not rendered unpatentable over Plotto and Zhang in further view of Severson for the following rationale.

As stated above Plotto and Zhang fail to teach or suggest “an attachment portion adapted for attachment to a suspension of a disk drive,” (emphasis added) as claimed. Furthermore, Severson fails to remedy the deficiencies of Plotto and Zhang. Applicants understand Severson to teach a method for an airflow control device for a disc drive. As shown clearly in Figure 1, Applicants understand said airflow control device to be mounted in a separate location than the suspension device. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that Severson fails to teach or suggest “an attachment portion adapted for attachment to a suspension of a disk drive,” (emphasis added) as claimed in independent Claim 1. Applicants also respectfully assert, for the same rational as above, that Severson fails to teach or suggest “the frame portion surrounding the slider and a moving-slider-type microactuator coupled to the slider and an attachment portion adapted for attachment to a suspension of the disk drive,”(emphasis added) as claimed in independent Claim 5.

Applicants respectfully assert that nowhere do the teachings of Plotto, Zhang, and Severson, alone or in combination teach or suggest a system including “an attachment portion adapted for attachment to a suspension of a disk drive,” (emphasis added) as claimed. Therefore Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1 and 5 overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) and are thus in condition for allowance. Applicants also respectfully submit that the teachings of Plotto, Zhang, and Severson, alone or in combination fail to teach or suggest the additional claimed features of the embodiment of the present invention as recited in Claim 2 that depends from independent Claim 1, and Claim 6 that depends from independent Claim 5. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 2 and 6 overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) and are thus in condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 4 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent Number 6,549,365 to Shimanouchi et al., hereinafter referred to as the “Shimanouchi” reference. Applicants have reviewed the cited reference and respectfully submit that the embodiments of the present invention as recited in Claims 4 and 8 are not anticipated in view of the following rationale.

Claim 4

Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner to independent Claim 4 that recites that an embodiment of the present invention contains (emphasis added):

An airflow shroud for a moving-head-type microactuator, comprising:
a plate portion attachable to a slider having a movable-head-type microactuator; and a recessed portion corresponding to the moving-head-type microactuator of the slider.

Shimanouchi and the claimed invention contain an important difference. Applicants understand Shimanouchi to purport to teach a head slider with inching actuator and method of manufacturing said head slider. Particularly, Applicants understand Shimanouchi to purport to teach a head base plate installed on the electrostatic actuator and not the slider element. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that Shimanouchi fails to teach a system with “a plate portion attachable to a slider having a movable-head-type microactuator,” (emphasis added) as claimed.

For this reason, Applicants respectfully assert that nowhere does Shimanouchi teach or suggest the claimed embodiments of the present invention as recited in independent Claim 4, particularly “a plate portion attachable to a slider having a movable-head-type microactuator,” (emphasis added) as claimed. Therefore, Applicant respectfully asserts that this claim overcomes the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(a), and is thus in a condition for allowance.

Claim 8

Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner to independent Claim 8 that recites, in part, that an embodiment of the present invention contains (emphasis added):

the airflow shroud including a plate portion attachable to a slider having a moving-head-type

microactuator, and a recessed portion corresponding to the moving-head-type microactuator of the slider.

For the same rational presented above for independent Claim 4, Applicants respectfully assert that nowhere do the teaching of Shimanouchi teach or suggest the present invention, particularly “the airflow shroud including a plate portion attachable to a slider having a moving-head-type microactuator ,”(emphasis added) as claimed. As such, independent Claim 8 overcomes the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(a), and is thus in condition for allowance.


CONCLUSION

In light of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims. Based on the arguments presented above, Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1-8 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of these Claims. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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